

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Lawrence J. SIFEL et al.

Serial No.: Divisional Application of  
U.S.S.N. 09/008,780

Filed: November 27, 2000

For: ORGANIC SHELL BLANK AND  
METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

Prior Application :

Group Art Unit: 1734

Examiner: L. Gray

#4/A

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application  
as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-32.

Please add claims 33-37 as follows:

--33. An organic shell inlay blank comprising:  
a first sheet of nacreous shell matter;  
a second sheet of nacreous shell matter; said first sheet being stacked on  
said second sheet, said first sheet being sufficiently thin that at least a portion of said  
second sheet is visible through said first sheet when stacked; and

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000

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